

# House Resolution 119 - Introduced

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY ANDERSON

1 A Resolution urging Iowa's congressional delegation to  
2 take all necessary measures to limit the authority  
3 of any President of the United States to order a  
4 preemptive launch of nuclear weapons.

5 WHEREAS, there are over 15,000 nuclear weapons  
6 globally, most of which are possessed by the United  
7 States and Russia, and most of which are significantly  
8 more destructive than those dropped on Hiroshima and  
9 Nagasaki, Japan, during World War II; and

10 WHEREAS, use and detonation of even a small number  
11 of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic human,  
12 environmental, and economic consequences globally,  
13 impacting everyone on the planet; and

14 WHEREAS, the first use of nuclear weapons, including  
15 by the United States, against any other nuclear-armed  
16 nation could result in that nation's immediate  
17 retaliation and invite the near-total destruction of  
18 the United States, including the state of Iowa; and

19 WHEREAS, according to projections using blast radius  
20 and ambient population data, compiled by Assistant  
21 Professor Alex Wellerstein of the Stevens Institute of  
22 Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, a single nuclear  
23 detonation in Chicago, Illinois, would cause upwards of  
24 2,767,440 fatalities, 2,089,050 injuries, and affect  
25 7,687,045 people within range of the detonation in the  
26 first 24 hours, including many Iowans; and

27 WHEREAS, the citizens of Iowa deserve to live a life  
28 free from the threat of the reckless use of nuclear

1 weapons; and

2 WHEREAS, development, maintenance, and storage of  
3 nuclear weapons drain precious taxpayer resources  
4 while failing to make Iowa and the nation safer  
5 from 21st century national security concerns such as  
6 cyberattacks, terrorism, and climate change; and

7 WHEREAS, religious and military leaders, nuclear  
8 experts, and over 300 former heads of state from around  
9 the world have called for urgent action to eliminate  
10 all nuclear weapons globally; and

11 WHEREAS, every President of the United States since  
12 President Ronald Reagan has worked to reduce global  
13 nuclear stockpiles in an effort to ultimately eliminate  
14 these weapons of mass destruction; and

15 WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has repeatedly  
16 questioned why the United States cannot use nuclear  
17 weapons and called for a major nuclear buildup,  
18 which will incite other countries to do the same and  
19 dramatically increase the risks of nuclear war; and

20 WHEREAS, according to a Congressional Budget  
21 Office report, the United States is expected to spend  
22 \$1 trillion over the next 30 years to upgrade its  
23 nuclear arsenal, money that could be better spent to  
24 improve education, health care, job creation, and  
25 infrastructure; and

26 WHEREAS, a President of the United States has the  
27 sole and unilateral power to launch a nuclear war  
28 without any consultation with congressional leaders  
29 and without any system of checks and balances to the  
30 exercise of this power; NOW THEREFORE,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
2 That the Iowa House of Representatives urges Iowa's  
3 congressional delegation to take all necessary steps  
4 to establish a system of checks and balances on the  
5 preemptive use of nuclear weapons to ensure that a  
6 President of the United States will not have sole and  
7 unchecked authority to launch nuclear weapons, except  
8 in circumstances of retaliation for an attack on the  
9 United States.